**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR COLUMBIA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF WILLIAM BRADLEY ANDERSON, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER A LONG AND DISTINGUISHED CAREER AS A FIREFIGHTER, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the Senate are pleased to learn that Chief William Bradley Anderson will be honored on March 24, 2010, as he begins a much deserved retirement from the City of Columbia Fire Department where he has faithfully served the citizens of Columbia and Richland County during a remarkable career; and

Whereas, born in Northfield, Vermont, William Bradley Anderson grew up in North Carolina and attended public and private schools in North Carolina, Norway, and Sweden; and

Whereas, from 1973 to 1979, he served with the Guilford College Fire Department in Greensboro, North Carolina, and with the Eno Fire Department in Durham; and

Whereas, in 1977, he earned a bachelor of science degree in physics from Guilford College, and in 2005 he received the school’s Alumni Excellence Award for Community Service; and

Whereas, he taught for the National Fire Academy from 1979 to 2009 and received a master’s degree in public administration in 1987 from the University of North Carolina in Charlotte; and

Whereas, he served with the Charlotte Fire Department in various roles from 1978 to 1989 and was recognized nationally for innovative public fire‑education work; and

Whereas, from 1989 to 1991 as the fire chief of the Florence Fire Department, he planned, directed, and managed the operations of the sixty‑five members of the department and was instrumental in founding the county fire chiefs’ association; and

Whereas, he began serving with the Columbia Fire Department in 1991 as assistant fire chief for administration and then as fire chief in 2004 to oversee the six‑hundred-member department that serves the citizens of Richland County from thirty‑two fire stations; and

Whereas, he managed the department’s thirty‑five‑million‑dollar budget, led reorganization of the department, enhanced internal communications, improved community outreach, upgraded hazmat operations, and added seventy‑seven career positions; and

Whereas, since 2002, Chief Anderson has served the community on the board of trustees of EdVenture Children’s Museum and since 2005 as a board member and newsletter editor for the Columbia Luncheon Club, a civil‑rights leadership group; and

Whereas, he has also served the United Way of the Midlands as the co‑chair of the Local Government Campaign in 2007‑2008 and as the City of Columbia co‑chair in 2009, and he is a member of the Columbia meeting of the Religious Society of Friends; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the dedicated service of Chief William Bradley Anderson and are pleased to learn that after more than two decades of firefighting in South Carolina he will be enjoying his well-deserved retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Columbia City Fire Department Chief William Bradley Anderson, upon the occasion of his retirement after a long and distinguished career as a firefighter, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Columbia City Fire Department Chief William Bradley Anderson.

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